IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

LABORERS WELFARE FUND OF DELAWARE: **CIVIL ACTION**

LOCAL NO. 199, LABORERS OF DELAWARE :

LOCAL UNION NO. 199 PENSION PLAN, NO. 07-CV-LOCAL 199 LABORERS INTERNATIONAL

UNION OF NORTH AMERICA ANNUITY

PLAN, LABORERS LOCAL 199 TRAINING

AND APPRENTICESHIP FUND and

LABORERS LOCAL 199 VACATION FUND (administered through the Laborers Welfare Fund

of Delaware Local 199)

c/o GEM Group

650 Naamans Road, Suite 303

Claymont, DE 19703

and

LABORERS'-EMPLOYERS' COOPERATIVE

EDUCATION TRUST FUNDS

c/o Delaware Contractors Association

P.O. Box 6520

Wilmington, DE 19804

and

LABORERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL NO. 199 AFL-CIO

532 South Claymont Street

Wilmington, DE 19801

Plaintiffs

v.

MADISON INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

TEAM, LTD.

2221 Sens Road

Laporte, Texas 77571

Defendant

COMPLAINT

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

DB02:5837474.1 007442.1028 1

- 1. This action is instituted under, and by virtue of, Sections 502 and 515 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. §§ 1132 and 1145, and Section 301 of the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947, as amended, ("LMRA"), 29 U.S.C. § 185, to collect liquidated damages owed for late fringe benefit contributions.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Section 502(e)(1) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e)(1), and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1337. Venue is appropriate pursuant to Section 502(e)(2) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e)(2), and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).

PARTIES

3. The Plaintiffs, Laborers Welfare Fund of Delaware Local No. 199, Laborers of Delaware Local Union No. 199 Pension Plan, Local 199 Laborers International Union of North America Annuity Plan, Laborers Local 199 Training and Apprenticeship Fund, and Laborers Local 199 Vacation Fund (administered through the Laborers Welfare Fund of Delaware Local 199) ("Funds"), are jointly-administered, multi-employer benefit funds within the meaning of Section 302(c)(5) of the LMRA, 29 U.S.C. § 186(c)(5), and Sections 3(3) and 3(37)(A) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 1002(3) and (37)(A). The Laborers-Employers Cooperative Education Trust ("LECET") is a jointly-administered, multi-employer fund within the meaning of Section 302(c)(9) of the LMRA; 29 U.S.C. § 186(c)(9). The Funds and LECET receive contributions from various employers who are obligated to make contributions thereto by virtue of their having agreed to be bound by collective bargaining agreements with Laborers International Union of North America Local 199, AFL-CIO ("Local 199") and by virtue of their having agreed to be bound by the Agreements and Declarations of Trusts that establish the Funds and LECET. The offices of the Funds and LECET are located at 650 Naamans Road, Claymont, Delaware 19703.

- 4. Plaintiff, Laborers International Union of North America, Local 199, AFL-CIO ("Local 199") is a labor organization within the meaning of Section 2(5) of the National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. § 152(5) and an employee organization within the meaning of Section 3(4) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1002(4). Its principal place of business is 532 South Claymont Street, Wilmington, Delaware, 19801. Local 199 represents employees employed in the construction industry as laborers in the State of Delaware.
- 5. Defendant, Madison Industrial Services Team, Ltd. ("Defendant"), is a company incorporated in the State of Texas with a principal place of business at 2221 Sens Road, Laporte, Texas 77571. At all times relevant hereto, the Defendant has been an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce within the meaning of Section 301 of the LMRA, 29 U.S.C. § 185, and Section 152(2) of the NLRA, 29 U.S.C. § 152(2). The Defendant is also an "employer" within the meaning of Section 3(5) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. § 1002(5).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- At all times relevant hereto, the Defendant has agreed to be bound by the terms of 6. a collective bargaining agreement ("Agreement") with Local 199 which set forth, inter alia, the wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment of laborers employed by the Defendant in the State of Delaware. Among the provisions contained in the Agreement are clauses that require Defendant to make timely contributions to the Funds on a monthly basis when members of Local 199 are employed by the Defendant, and to submit timely monthly contribution report forms to the Funds' administrator.
- 7. "Timely" contributions, as referred to under the terms of the Agreement and under the Agreements and Declarations of Trust establishing the Funds means that all employee

benefit contributions must be received by the Funds on or before the fifteenth day of the month following the month in which the benefits are earned.

- 8. Under the terms of the Agreement and the rules of the Funds, contribution report forms, like the contributions themselves, must be received no later than the fifteenth day of the month in which the hours were worked by members of Local 199. Under the Agreement and the Agreements and Declarations of Trust establishing the Funds, all reports received after the fifteenth of the month are subjected to a ten percent liquidated damages charge.
- 9. The Trustees of the Funds have established a program pursuant to which they audit the books and records of employers obligated to contribute to the Funds under the terms of the Agreement in order to insure that contributory employers have made the contributions required under the terms of the Agreement and the rules of the Funds.
- 10. In October, 2006, the Trustees of the Funds decided to commence an audit of the books and records of the Defendant for the twelve months covering the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006 and retained the accounting firm of Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, P. A. ("Accounting Firm") to perform such audit.
- 11. Representatives of the Accounting Firm contacted the Defendant on October 18, 2006 to advise the Defendant that an audit would be conducted and requested various documents and records.
- 12. Representatives of the Defendant advised the Accounting Firm that such documents would be provided by November 2, 2006.
- 13. Not withstanding its promise to provide documents and records to the Accounting Firm, no such documents and records were provided.

- 14. Thereafter, representatives of the Accounting Firm attempted to speak with representatives of the Defendant in order to obtain the necessary documents and records so as to begin the audit.
- 15. The Accounting Firm has made several efforts to contact the Defendant but the Defendant has failed and refused to respond to the Accounting Firm or supply the documents sought be the Accounting Firm, such documents being necessary for the audit of the Defendant.

COUNT ONE

VIOLATION OF ERISA FOR FAILURE TO PERMIT THE FUNDS TO AUDIT THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE DEFENDANT

- 16. Paragraphs 1 through 15 of the Complaint are re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.
- 17. Section 515 of ERISA, as amended, 29 U.S.C. §1145, requires every employer who is obligated to make contributions to a multi-employer plan under the terms of the plan or under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement to do so in accordance with the terms and conditions of the plan or agreement.
- 18. Pursuant to a policy of the Funds that requires periodic audits of contributing employers, the Trustees of the Funds elected to conduct an audit of the books and records of the Defendant in order to insure that the Defendant made all contributions to the Funds as it was obliged to do under the terms of the Agreement.
- 19. The refusal of the Defendant to permit the Funds, through the Auditing Firm, to audit all the Defendant's books and records so as to permit the Auditing Firm to conduct a full and complete audit is a violation of ERISA in that the Defendant has failed to adhere to the rules and terms of the Funds' benefit plans.

COUNT TW0

BREACH OF CONTRACT FOR FAILURE TO PERMIT THE FUNDS TO AUDIT THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF THE DEFENDANT

- 20. Paragraphs 1 through 19 of the Complaint are re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.
- 21. Under the terms of Article XXIV, Section 3 of the Agreement, the Trustees of the Funds retain the right to audit the books and records of any employer bound to the terms thereof.
- 22. The refusal and failure of the Defendant to permit the audit of its books and records constitutes a breach of the Agreement.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs urge this Honorable Court to:

- (1) Enter an order requiring that the Defendant provide to the Auditing Firm or any other auditor employed by the Plaintiffs books and records of the Defendant necessary for Auditing Firm or any other auditor to determine whether in fact the Defendant made sufficient contributions to the Funds, as required under the terms of the Agreement;
- (2) Pay to the Plaintiffs reasonable attorneys' fees and costs involved in the litigation of this matter as well as accounting fees incurred in the audit;
- Order that the Defendant pay to the Plaintiffs any monies determined due and owing the Plaintiffs that may be established during the course of this litigation; and
- (4) Grant such other relief as this Court may deem just and reasonable.

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Email: jwalters@markowitzandrichman.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: Much 29, 200

JS44 (Rev. 3/99)

I.(a) PLAINTIFFS

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

DEFENDANTS

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Timothy Snyder, Esquire, Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP				ATTORNEYS	(IF KNO	ivvn)				
Brandywine Building, 17 th Floor										
1000 West Street Wilmington, DE 19801										•
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AO FORM 85 RECEIPT (REV	0/04)

United States District Court for the District of Delaware

07-181 Civil Action No.

<u>ACKNOWLEDGMENT</u> OF RECEIPT FOR AO FORM 85

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION

I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE REC	CEIPT OF COPIES OF AO FORM 85.
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(Date forms issued)	(Signature of Party or their Representative)
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Note: Completed receipt will be filed in the Civil Action